

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 7 and 8, which stand withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof and without prejudice to the right to file a divisional application directed thereto.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A magnetic head slider having opposite sides and a leading edge side on which an air stream induced by a magnetic disc flows into the slider, and a trailing edge side on which the air stream flows out from the slider, and comprising a leading pad formed on the leading edge side and serving as an air bearing surface, a trailing pad formed on the trailing edge side, and serving as an air bearing surface, a pair of side rails formed along the opposite sides having rail surfaces, and a recess surface defined between the leading pad and the trailing pad, wherein the leading pad has a height which is measured from the recess surface and which is greater than that of the trailing pad, the leading pad including a first surface and a second surface which is formed on a leading edge side of the first surface and which is lower than the first surface, the second surface being higher than the rail surfaces of the side rails..

2. (previously presented) A magnetic head slider as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first surface is projected from a recess surface, and the trailing pad includes a third surface projected from the recess surface and a fourth surface which is formed

on a leading edge side of the third surface and which is lower than the third surface, the second surface of the leading pad being higher than the third surface of the trailing pad.

Claim 3 (canceled)

4. (previously presented) A magnetic head slider as set forth in claim 2, wherein the third surface is higher than the rail surfaces of the side rails.

5. (previously presented) A magnetic head slider as set forth in claim 2, wherein the second surface is higher than the rail surfaces of the side rails, and the third surface is higher than the rail surfaces while the fourth surface is flush with the rail surfaces of the side rails.

6. (previously presented) A magnetic head slider as set forth in claim 2, wherein the height of the third surface of the trailing pad measured from the recess surface is set to be not greater than 4 μm .

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (canceled)